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The Voice of the University of Toronto at Mississauga

THE MEDIUM

Chawla, Mckinlay win in controversial ECSU elections



Above: ECSU Vice President of Finance Rose Oliveira tells Seema Chawla (left) and Reetu Kumra (right) that Erick Mckinlay beat Kumra for College Affairs Commissioner by one vote.
Left: Mckinlay celebrates his victory.

BY ADAM GILES

If you're sick of controversial elections, don't read on. Last Thursday night at the Blind Duck Pub, ECSU revealed the results of its by-election for College Affairs Commissioner and Advertising Director. Seema Chawla won the Advertising position by almost 30 votes. Erick Mckinlay edged Reetu Kumra for College Affairs by one vote.

According to the election's Chief Returning Officer Anwar Ahmed, the Elections Committee recounted the ballots three times and Mckinlay had more votes than Kumra all three times.

"The South Building count was off once, but that was between Rehan [Sheikh] and Reetu. The North Building was consistent," said Rose Oliveira, ECSU Vice President of Finance.

Preema Chauhan, ECSU President, said that while she was surprised about the one-vote difference, she thought the College Affairs race was

so close because both Mckinlay, with 107 votes, and Kumra, with 106 votes, were qualified.

"I thought both Erick and Reetu were strong candidates so I'm not overly surprised that they were neck in neck. I thought Reetu had some good ideas in her platform. I don't know a lot about the Mckinlay Plan," said Chauhan.

"It's kind of unfortunate that it was only one vote that separated them because it may mean that we'll have an appeal filed."

Kumra was shocked at the decision and said she will appeal the final count.

"I don't believe it. Has this ever happened before? I am going to appeal it because one of my friends, who is a full-time student, was not allowed to vote. Her name wasn't on the voting list. I am disappointed."

said Kumra.

According to ECSU's election bylaws, candidates have two business days after the results are announced to file an appeal. If she does file an appeal, Chauhan said it will likely be to contest the elections procedures – whether or not the voting list was accurate – as opposed to the actual count.

ECSU's election bylaws say that voters have to be "Full-time undergraduate students registered at Erindale College, in at least 4.0 full year courses, and has paid all incurring fees." It says that students with fewer than 4.0 credits "may become members of ECSU upon payment of the annual membership fee," which is currently \$24.25. If the voter's list does not reflect all of the students

☞ Accuracy continued on page 2

Local candidates come to UTM for SAC debate



Mississauga Centre candidates argue the issues at UTM last Thursday.

BY JOHANNA KRISTOLAITIS

Five candidates for Mississauga Centre (UTM's riding), sat behind tables at the front of the Kanell lecture hall as Erindale students and other members of the community filtered in to hear them debate the issues. The turnout was quite good for a political event.

"I was pleased to see the level of interest in our nation and how it is run," said Chris Allsop, SAC Erindale Director – organizer of the all-candidates debate. "Students must make an informed decision when they vote on Monday."

While everyone agrees that these awards are an excellent boost for both the university and the campus itself, the reality is that the student centre is not being used to its full potential. Currently home to ECSU, SAC, and the Medium, the centre is also used for club events and general student usage, but a lot of space is still not being filled.

Plans are underway to help make the building more appealing to students.

NDP candidate Gail McCabe spoke

about her job as a social worker, helping persons with disabilities. Deciding

she could help them better if she

upgraded her education, she returned to school and is currently a doctoral candidate, teaching at Wilfred Laurier and York.

"The surplus is massive," said McCabe. "And it has come out of our

☞ Mississauga continued on page 4

What's Inside

Ramadan

7

Unbreakable

9

Soccer finals

11

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"...it will be like a landing pad in my backyard."
— Area resident Donna Armstrong thinks an airport is part of UTM's Master Plan,

page 3

The End

BY ADAM GILES

As the University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM) prepares to put on its construction helmet and drive the first shovel into the ground, many students and area residents hold their palms up and scrunch confused looks on their faces. Many people don't know about UTM's plans for expansion or even about the existence of its Master Plan.

Principal Robert McNutt said, "The Master Plan has been on the web for some time. We've been trying to inform people that it's on the web."

There is a link to the Master Plan on UTM's homepage (www.erin.utoronto.ca) but the file-size is 175 megabytes and it cannot be viewed unless it's downloaded.

"The version that's on the web is hard to read. I don't know why they'd put a version with such a huge file size on the web. They should put a text version with a much smaller file-size on the web," said UTM Biology professor Nicholas Collins.

☞ UTM students continued on page 3

☞ Under-used continued on page 4

TOONIE TUESDAYS FEATURE THIS WEEK

BLIND DUCK PUB

DJ KWAS...BACK BY DEMAND...Tuesday Afternoon...12PM-2PM

GIVE GENEROUSLY TO THE UTM FOOD DRIVE

ADMINISTRATION VS. STUDENT BODY

Accuracy of ECSU voter's list in question

Continued from front

who have paid the membership fee, it's up to the Elections Committee to decide whether or not to declare the election invalid. If the Elections Committee finds the election invalid, it must take its recommendation to an Elections Review Board, which has the power to negate the results of the election.

ECSU experienced a similar controversy in 1997 when Scott Reynolds beat Kesser Osman for the same College Affairs position after Osman appealed the ballot count. After the recount, Reynolds sat three votes ahead of Osman.

Chauhan said it's unlikely that ECSU will allow McKinlay and Kumra to split the College Affairs position. Even in the event of a tie, ECSU's election bylaws say "the election referendum shall be extended for an additional day" and that only eligible voters who have not yet voted may vote.

"I've never heard of a case on ECSU where two people have shared a position before. That's a part of the elections procedure that needs to be



No hard feelings. Advertising candidate Trevor Smith graciously accepts defeat.

looked into further," she said.

Like most people, McKinlay was also surprised at how close the final count was.

"I can't believe it was only one vote that separated us. All of the other candidates involved had something to offer the university. I am looking forward to fulfilling the expectations that students have of their new College Affairs Commissioner," said McKinlay.

Rehan Sheikh, with 47 votes, and Peter Lee, with 34 votes, also ran for College Affairs Commissioner.

The Advertising Director race was not as dramatic - Chawla (124 votes) beat Trevor Smith (98 votes) and Shazad Mirza (60 votes).

"I am surprised. I am looking forward to experiencing a different part

of university life. This is a leadership role and I'm looking forward to seeing what that's like. I thought Trevor was great. I think he would have done a good job too," said Chawla.

Chawla, who campaigned with Kumra, said, "I'm extremely disappointed but I'm also sure that Erick will do a great job. [Kumra] worked really hard."

Ahmed said that aside from the College Affairs Commissioner controversy, the election went well.

"The candidates followed all the rules. There was no illegal campaigning. I'm happy that it ran so smoothly. I'm also surprised at the number of voters we got for a by-election - it shows that there is an interest out there for ECSU," said Ahmed.

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ECSU elections staff verify that Mansoor Ansari's name is on the voting list. Reetu Kumra plans to appeal the election results and the accuracy of the voting list.

Man found guilty of assault on parking officer

BY ADAM GILES

In the spring, a University of Waterloo student punched a UTM parking attendant in the chest when he received a parking ticket while visiting the campus. On November 16, Cheuk Yin Ngai, 19, was found guilty of assault in Brantford's criminal court.

According to Len Paris, Manager of Police Services at UTM, the court fined Ngai \$200 and ordered him to attend a court-sanctioned anger management seminar - a seminar that the court approves of.

"He was also instructed not to have any contact with the victim. If he complies with all three of these conditions, he will be issued a conditional discharge, which means he won't have a criminal record," said Paris.

On March 15 at 2:30 p.m. Ngai assaulted a 75-year old parking attendant.

"The parking officer, an older gentleman, issued him a ticket for being illegally parked on Residence Road near Phase One while he was visiting friends. After shouting profanities, he struck the parking officer in the chest with a clenched fist. Witnesses called campus police - one of the witnesses was a residence don," said Paris.

"The thing that concerned me the most was that it happened to an elderly gentleman - that really disturbed me. But the parking officer is fine - I don't believe he missed any work days as a result of that incident," said Paris.

"He writes 25-30 tickets per day. He does encounter a few people who verbally express their displeasure with getting a ticket but it's very rare that we see anything more than that."

Paris said Campus Police does not tolerate this type of behaviour on campus.

"If someone has a legitimate complaint about a parking ticket or any other issue, there are legal avenues they can take. Obviously striking someone is not the solution," he said.

Committee places Multi-Faith Prayer Centre in SC

BY RABIAH QURESHI

With a little persistence, the cultural clubs and the student body of UTM have convinced the authorities that we need a Multi-Faith Prayer Centre. On November 14, the Student Centre Management Board, along with new Prayer Centre attendees, selected the top portion of the East Wing of the Student Centre to become the designated prayer space. The East Wing Committee will decide the function of the bottom portion of the East Wing later. They may devote the space to a student travel agency, which would generate revenue and give

students good discounts.

The Arab Students Association had submitted a petition of 40 signatures prior

to the meeting held in support of the Prayer Centre.

"It's more than a good thing. We finally have it because it's about time. The Scarborough and St. George campuses have prayer rooms. I'm so happy it's finally here because Muslim students have been using the stairwells way too long and it was degrading," said Sommer-Anne Dhun, SAC Erindale Chair.

"This will help the diversity of our campus because we have a lot of students from different cultures," said Dhun. "Plus, some students don't even know that the East Wing is part of the Student Centre."

During a probationary period of one year the Student Centre Management Board will monitor how much the space is actually being used by students.

"The St. George Campus has five praying centres - two are multi-faith and three are specifically for Muslim students. The UTM Muslim Students Association is pleased that the administration has been so supportive in accommodating prayer space," said Rufaida Mohammed, President of the MSA.

Pardeep Nagra, UTM Diversity Relations Officer, will arrange a meeting with Sean O'Leary, the Cultural Clubs Commissioner, to announce the opening of the Prayer Centre and lay down the stipulations for its use.

"We are trying to set up a Users' Committee so we can take a step in the right direction and use the space effectively," said Nagra.

When asked if he expected any timetable or cultural conflicts between the various religious groups, Nagra said, "It's not too much of a challenge getting the whole thing coordinated. It'll be like the meditation room we used to have in the Crossroads Building and there weren't any conflicts there, so we don't think there will be any now regarding times."

Regarding when the Prayer Centre will start up, students who attended the meeting said that it will take at least two more weeks because the locks have to be changed, furniture has to be moved and fire exits have to be checked.

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UTM students, area residents uninformed about Master Plan

Continued from front

the Master Plan with pictures, diagrams, and images – created copies that were expensive to produce.

"If you want to study the text then you need to get a printed version, of which we have some copies. Glenn Walker keeps most of them in his office [room 3135 in the South Building]. If someone wants to come borrow a copy they can," said McNutt.

Informing Students

What is UTM's primary motive for expanding the campus? To accommodate more students. So then, should the planners of expansion inform and seek input from the students? According to SAC Erindale Chair Sommer-Anne Dhun and ECSU President Preena Chauhan, yes. But Dhun doesn't think enough students know what's going on with the expansion of their campus.

"I don't think administration has provided enough accessible information to students, a lot of students don't know about the drastic changes that are going on," said Dhun.

McNutt said university administration informed students about the Master Plan through various committee meetings.

"We held one meeting at QSS where the architect came and explained the Master Plan to the students and staff at that meeting. We've been taking it through the Resources and Planning Committee of Erindale College Council and they're part of the approval process. We have student representation at QSS, at ECC, and on the



Residents on Mississauga Road and smaller side-streets near UTM say they don't know much about UTM's plans for growth.

Master Plan committees," said McNutt.

"While it's a long-term plan, I don't think much will happen while the present student body is here. First-year students will start to feel the effect and second-year students will be here when we start the construction the year after next. Until then we won't see any change."

Dhun said, "We can talk about it at ECC and we can talk about it at QSS but we need to do more than that because the majority of students don't come out to those meetings. I only know about the Master Plan because I am a student leader and I attend the meetings where it is dis-

cussed. Yes, they've put it on the web, but it doesn't help if that's all they do."

UTM student Patrick Chatelain doesn't think administrators have informed students about campus expansion very well.

"I've heard some things about it but I didn't know what was going on until the November QSS meeting," he said.

According to Chauhan, "Administration needs to be extremely proactive and in touch with what everyone wants because of what happened with the Student Centre – it isn't what everyone thought it would be. Our experiences with the shortcomings of the Student Centre should drive us to get more input from students."

Both Dhun and Chauhan agreed that university administration needs to hold a Master Plan awareness campaign and make information about campus expansion more accessible. They suggested keeping text versions of the plan available for students to pick up from student leader offices and holding an open forum where students can ask questions.

When asked if administration has approached ECSU or other student leaders about informing students through an open forum, McNutt said, "No, but I'm certainly prepared to do that if they want it."

Informing area residents

Area residents will have to tolerate construction crews hanging around UTM over the next few years. Should they be informed? Everyone agrees that they should. How hard has UTM tried to keep them informed?

"We had a public meeting for local residents in May or June and told them what the plan is. The citizens saw an earlier draft of the plan at the meeting and their concerns were solely around traffic," said McNutt.

"Letting the neighbours know is a courtesy – I don't think we have to. The people we do have to inform are the city government. As long as we obey all their

Collegeway entrance built as soon as possible. That's why it's called 'the Collegeway' – it's supposed to be the entrance to the college," said Armstrong.

"Generally, what I've found is that they'll communicate with you and they'll try to take your suggestions to heart, but when something on a larger scale like this comes in, they don't take what you have to say as seriously. They say 'too bad' and that's exactly what they did with the [Phase Six] residence building."

McNutt said that although local residents are opposed to a left turn lane – because they don't want the road widened – UTM will need to add it because of the increase in enrollment.

Area resident William Doerfling hasn't heard about these issues yet and said he is concerned about the traffic backlogs on Mississauga Road.

"I have to sit in my car and wait for five minutes to make a left turn onto Mississauga Road. I'm personally not affected by the addition of a turning lane. They have a right to do whatever they want on their own property. It depends where they're building on the property but you'd think they'd want to notify us more than once to make sure we're informed," said Doerfling.

Area resident Mark Spadafora said he hasn't heard about these issues either but he's not really concerned because "the traffic can't get much worse than it is now."

Area resident Elaine Evans said, "I didn't go to the information meeting although I appreciated the opportunity. I would hope there'd be more opportunity for dialogue on these things."

McNutt said, "There are no plans to have further dialogue with area residents. We had the meeting, we got their input, and we learned from them that they're concerned with traffic."

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Mississauga Central candidates pitch platforms at UTM

Continued from front

social safety network. The NDP will put it back where it's needed: in health care, at-home care, environment protection, benefits for families and by rolling back tuition."

Current Member of Parliament, Carolyn Parrish, is running once again for the Liberal Party.

"The surplus is due to good management," she said. "Yes, there were cuts made to almost every department in order to bring down the deficit. But we have recently passed a mini-budget to put some of this money back in the taxpayers' pockets."

Progressive Conservative candidate Nina Tangri explained how her party wants to help restore Canadian values such as family, community, diversity and integrity. In attacking the Liberals' management of health care, she assured that the PCs would restore that lost funding.

She also spoke about restructuring student loans so that they are easier to repay and raise the amount of income you can have before you must start paying taxes from what it is now (approximately \$7000) to \$12000.

Harry Dhaliwal, the Canadian Alliance representative, also attacked what the Liberals have done over the past seven years. He vowed to fight crime and toughen up the criminal justice system. He added that his party will restore money to health care, give tax cuts to everyone and work on creating a national education standard.

The Marijuana Party candidate for our area is one of our own students: Alan Ward, a political science student. He explained that his party has two parts to their platform. Firstly, as most people know, they want to legalize marijuana because of the harm the law is causing: many, many people are denied access to



Above: An audience member throws a question at the panel photos/Nuvera Mirza
CHARLIES of candidates. SAC's well-organized candidates debate attracted over 100 people to the Kanell Centre auditorium last Thursday. The federal election is today.
Left: Marijuana Party candidate Alan Ward, a UTM student, says something at the podium. Nice T-shirt dude.

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jobs because they have one charge of possession on their record and many others are in jail for simple possession. Secondly, the Marijuana Party would like to make the electoral system more representative of what Canadian citizens actually want. "All other opinions on all the other issues are my own and may not be the same as other members of the Marijuana Party," said Ward.

After these introductions, Professor Peter Silcox, who chaired the debate, asked the panel to present their two prepared questions. Paul Banwatt, president of Erindale's Pre-Law Society, spoke first, asking what should be the federal

government's role in education. "The government's role is clear," said McCabe. "It's one of leadership, facilitation and consultation with all the stakeholders; that's the students, the parents, the public and the private sectors, and the academics and teachers at the institutions." While she said the NDP will commit to education through both funds and national standards, she said private, for-profit universities will not get assistance. The NDP also plans to bring in increased education programs for early childhood, which has been shown to be the most important years in terms of a person's learning.

"The Canadian Alliance believes that national education standards need to be set so that a child in P.E.I. receives the same quality of education as a child in B.C." said Dhaliwal. "I would not support any cuts to the core of education."

Parrish spoke about how the Liberals have brought in programs, such as the Millennium Scholarship Foundation, to help with education. "We have to fund the universities from the top and fund the students from the bottom," said Parrish.

The restructuring of student loans and taxes was once again the main subject of Tangri's discourse. "We will also establish a Canadian Institute for Learning and Technology," she said. "Which is a new centre of expertise in applied research and the use of technology for learning and teaching."

Ward does not believe that education is really a federal matter, other than setting standards for things like tuition and quality of teachers. "Places are different," said Ward simply.

"Also, the government should provide student loans that are almost interest-free, but if you make school totally free, you're just inviting people to say it doesn't really matter and take longer than needed to finish their degree."

The second prepared question came from the other member of the panel, Lisa De Piante, who was representing the Political Science Student Association. She asked candidates to explain their party's position on the surplus. All candidates said basically the same thing: the money should go to paying down the debt and back into the country's social spending on things like health care and education. What varied was the proportion that would go to each area. Tangri pointed out that the PC party wanted to help alleviate the homelessness situation and had a plan ready for that effect. While Parrish spoke of the Liberals 50-50 split plan (50% to debt reduction, 50% to spending) and McCabe spoke of increases for education and better job creation, Dhaliwal seemed to want to spend the money on almost everything. Ward agreed that money needed to go to debt reduction in order to stabilize the economy. He also shared with us the Marijuana Party's position on the surplus: "If marijuana was legalized, there would be a bigger surplus."

At this point the floor was opened up for audience questions as well as more, unprepared questions from the panel. These topics ranged from the pension plan for MPs to foreign policy to the separation of church and state to helping disabled people become self-sufficient.

Under-used SC wins architecture award

Continued from front

"The building is great in itself, but we just have to learn to make better use of it," said Principal Robert McNutt.

ECSU president Preena Chauhan, who attended the Urban Design Awards to represent the full time undergraduate students, agreed, saying that although traffic has picked up, there is still room for improvement, beginning with the pub.

"If the pub was at the back of the building and the front for common space, then the pub would function like a pub. I think there is a confusion as to what that space is really intended for and there needs to be a clear distinction between the pub and the rest of the building," she said.

Plans for interior revamping are also in the works, and include everything from

new furniture and paint to more technological and full-scale innovations.

"There are plans for a cyber café to be set up in the games room. In addition, the pub is looking at creative ways to change the overall atmosphere," Chauhan said.

Chauhan also sees a fixed programming schedule as one more possible way to boost student involvement. One issue that will be taken into account is the demand for more study space, which is feasible according to Principal McNutt. Using one more room on the second floor is a possibility to help supplement already existing study spaces. McNutt also states that the architects are willing to return and oversee the modification of the interior, hopefully helping to put the finishing touches on the structure.

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EDITORIAL

THE MEDIUM

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The New UTM

EDITORIAL

The UTM master plan is on the web at www.erin.utoronto.ca through a link. Good luck accessing it. The file size is too inconvenient for most computers to download. Copies of the plan are scarce – although Glenn Walker has a few copies to borrow.

ECSU president Preena Chauhan said administrators should get more input from students to avoid another Student Centre – a building built for students that student don't use.

Since expansion is for the students, why wouldn't administrators engage in a dialogue with the students? Perhaps students will tell administrators things they don't want to hear.

"The Student Centre sucks," says angry student Ruby Hundal, looking for a place to study in the Student Centre on a Sunday afternoon.

Administrators went out on a limb for the centre, promoting it and claiming it will be the new heart of the campus.

With this failure, the Master Plan expansion – funding for most of the plan is still uncertain – will be completed long after current students have left. Either way, it should be more accessible to students.

Student use these facilities. Student feel the pressures of limited parking spaces, long walks across campus, accessibility to various services, and placement of major centres like athletics and library facilities.

UTM will undergo its biggest change since the South Building showed up in the 70s. Some student leaders sat on the Master Plan committees, but the majority of UTM students are completely in the dark about the Master Plan.

At last week's ECSU by-election forum, candidates were dumb-founded at the mention of the Master Plan. Even certain administrators and faculty don't know about the plan. How can this proposal for change go on without input from the students? Students are the litmus tests for the success of past projects. The Student Centre doesn't work. Students will tell why. The Meeting place works. Student will tell why.

As a bonus, administrators won't have to worry as much about criticism from the students if a project fails. The "we know best" claim by the administrators screwed the Student Centre up, and may in fact screw up additions to the Master Plan.

At the very least, give us an opportunity to say what works. Your batting average needs improvement.

Student Centre awarded?

In other news, the Student Centre won a Mississauga Urban Design Award. It can't be a function award.

Since its inception, awkward funding process, student protests, and administrative praise, the Student Centre has been a steak in the heart of UTM. With student apathy at an all-time high, UTM is in danger of losing everything it's built over the last 25 years.

The Pub reflects this better than anything. Thursday night pubs are no more, and a strong reason is the Student Centre. Students always attended pub nights on Thursdays. Once the Student Centre showed up, the pub went down with potential rent costs – forgiven last year and this year, but returning next year – and low student turnout. Students and Pub officials complained about the high ceiling, bad acoustics, awful gymnasium-floor, too many entrances, and distracting lighting – essentially the design of place.

Principle McNutt said more study spaces will help. Then why is it that study rooms are locked on the weekends?

Other events in the Student Centre – volunteer fairs, clubs week, and Imaginus – all saw a drop in participation. Nobody came through the centre.

But, since the Student Centre looks good on UTM College brochures, the City of Mississauga gave an award for its design.

Makes sense. This kind of hypocrisy – awarding an empty shell for design, when design is one of the reasons it's never used – signifies so many of the problems at UTM.

Now that investors see the prestigious awards Mississauga gives to UTM, they'll be happy to fund more "open-concept" buildings so that more of UTM's money, energy, and student involvement can be flushed down the toilet.

The Medium is published weekly by Medium II Publications, a non-profit, incorporated student organization. The opinions expressed within are those of the writers and editors and do not necessarily reflect those of Medium II Publications. **The Medium's** mandate includes informing students of local and national concerns, and giving Erindale College students an opportunity to practice journalism. National advertising provided exclusively by Campus Network. The Medium is a subsidiary of The New York Sentinel.

fn The bread got out of hand. Sorry for the shot in the face Yvette. Trevor, stop farting. Trevor, Jen, and Yvette got expelled for insubordination. I sense a workers revolt coming. Adam did the best Sachin impersonation ever. Sorry Sach. The water at Swiss Chalet new my name. I swear Jen, we're never taking you with us again Trevor wants everyone to know he's a cock sucker. Tracy, your play to look us out failed, you fell for Jen's bait too easily. Jen dedicates this is a tyranny. At least someone noticed. Sun Tracy tipped Jen's pages off by "accident." I think it was on purpose. You gonna take that Jen? I can't take it anymore. I want out. 9:25pm Jen "the computer crashed." Adam "what, sports? no way?" Adam's deadpan gave us an extra hour of life. Jack decides to show up finally to do the ads. Thanks Jack. "I'm such a fuckin' loser," said Mehta 11:30pm

2001



The Federal Elections: every vote counts

opinion

By Rachel Ghose

On November 27th, Canadians will head to the polls to cast votes for the federal election. Instead of holding elections in the spring, it is assumed that Prime Minister Jean Chretien called an early winter election out of concern that Stockwell Day – leader of the Canadian Alliance – may gain support with more time. According to the Ipsos-Reid poll taken during the election campaign, Day appears to have done just that.

With the Bloc Quebecois, NDP, and the Conservatives in single digits, it is likely that the latter two parties will probably fall below the twelve seats necessary to retain official-party status, while the Bloc will likely return to Parliament with its caucus only slightly reduced. The elections appear to be a two-party race between the Liberals and the Canadian Alliance. Canada may end up very polarized in its political attachments.

During the French and English debates, all leaders exchanged personal attacks and challenged party policies. During the English debate, Day broke the rules to emphasize his views with a placard that read: "NO 2-TIER HEALTH CARE." Insults, accusations, and competitiveness have persisted throughout the campaign.

Day said: "The frighteningly

inaccurate blizzard of attacks that we are subjected to by the Liberals is astonishing."

The race between both leaders has been exceptionally tough. The results of the polls on the 27th will demonstrate how Canadians have been influenced and affected – Canadians who exercise their democratic rights. Although Canada's voting record is better than that of the United States, we can still improve our voter-turnout. UTM Political Science Professor David Pond believes that "voting is the most important tool Canadians have to hold their leaders accountable."

With tuition prices increasing each year, students can use their vote to effect change. We can choose the leader who we think can best meet the responsibilities of Prime Minister, and the leader whose platform best supports student needs. Janice Yip, a second-year English student at UTM, feels that if she does not exercise her democratic right to vote, she will have no right to complain afterward if she does not agree with the existing government.

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor will be edited for spelling, grammar, style, and coherence. Letters will not exceed 500 words in print. Letters that incite hatred, violence or letters that are racist, homophobic, sexist, or libelous, will not

"It's our nation and it's our democratic right. Voting is something we should care about. We always complain – and if you don't like the government, this is your chance to change the leader," she said.

Canadians who care will head out to vote on Monday, and display a commitment to Canada's welfare and a true respect for Canada's constitution. Voting is essential to a democratic state. "For many, it is their only direct encounter with the political process. It should be treated very seriously," says Pond.

On November 27th, Canadians will find out who the next Prime Minister will be. Will Chretien retain his role? Will Day triumph?

For those Canadians who vote, the eve of November 27th will satisfy their efforts because their voices will be heard through the "X" on their ballots. The cliché phrase – "every vote counts" – holds true. The current U.S. election proves it.

be published. Letters reflect opinions of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor-in-chief, other editors and staff, or **The Medium's** Board of Directors. In other words, just because we print it doesn't necessarily mean we agree with it. Submission does not guarantee publication. Submission of a letter to **The Medium** presumes the writer has read, and agrees with, this Policy. Please submit letters on disk.

FEATURES

Ramadan:

A time for thought, action, and change

- Why fast during Ramadan?

BY TAHAA GHAYYUR

"Fasting in Ramadan develops in a person the real spirit of social belonging, of unity and brotherhood, and of equality before God. This spirit is the natural product of the fact that when people fast they feel that they are joining the whole Muslim society - which makes up more than one fifth of world's population - in observing the same duty, in the same manner, at the same time, for the same motives, and for the same end. People have been crying throughout the ages for acceptable 'belonging,' for unity, for brotherhood, for equality, but how echoless their voices have been, and how very little success they have met."

- Hammudah Abdalati in Islam in Focus.

"What is fasting?" "How does the fasting of Muslims in Ramadan differ from the fasting of those from other faiths?" "Why should one 'torture' the body?" "What is gained from fasting?" These are a few questions often asked by non-Muslims - usually out of fascination with this spiritual practice of Islamic faith, and sometimes out of pity, sympathy, and thinking, "Why should anyone suffer from hunger and thirst?" Many people share the same negative perception of fasting.

"The primary purpose of fasting is to discipline the soul, to encourage moral behaviour, and to provoke compassion for the less fortunate."

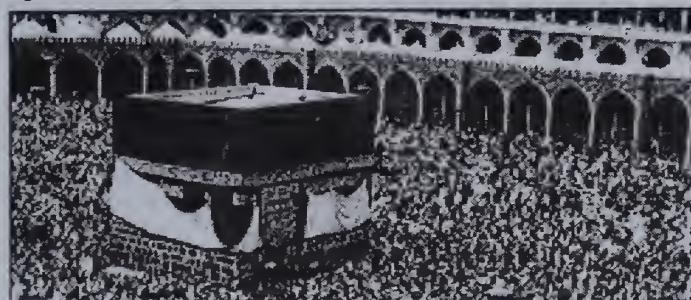
The Arabic word for fasting is "Sawm," which means 'to be at rest.' Fasting in the month of Ramadan - the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar - is one of the Five Pillars upon which the "house" of Islam is built. During this month, every able-bodied Muslim is required to fast everyday from sunrise to sunset. A person intending to fast usually wakes up before dawn and eats a light meal and makes an intention to fast for the sake of God on that particular day. During daylight hours, a fasting person abstains from all food, drink, inhaled substances, and sexual activity. A person is also required to refrain from any 'immoral' acts, such as indecent talk, lies, slander, ridicule, backbiting, and other sins. The Prophet of Islam said: "If one does not give up speaking falsehood and acting by it, God does not require them to give up their eating and drinking."

In the evening - immediately after sunset - Muslim families break the fast together in what is called "Iftar" in Arabic, meaning 'the feast.' This is a time of joy and love that fosters a sense of family unity and unity in the society at large. Iftar is a time every Muslim family looks forward to throughout the year. Special food

dishes are prepared to celebrate these moments of family bonding. Occasionally, during the month, Muslim students in universities and schools get together on campuses to break their fast, to socialize, and to remind each other about the higher responsibilities that each has - as helpers of the poor, the needy, and the promoters of justice.

THE VIRTUE IN FASTING

Fasting is an institution for the improvement of the moral and spiritual character of human beings. The purpose of the fast is to help develop self-restraint, self-purification, God-consciousness, compassion, the spirit of caring and sharing, the love of humanity, and the love of



Muslim pilgrims unite in the city of Makkah, in Saudi Arabia, to visit the Ka'bah - a structure believed by Muslims to be the first house of God built by the Prophet Abraham.

God. Fasting is a universal custom advocated by all world religions, with more restrictions in some than in others. The Islamic fast, as opposed to mere starvation or self-denial, is an act of worship and obedience to God, an act of thanksgiving, forgiveness, spiritual training, and self-examination. The ideal of Islam does not lie in asceticism or renunciation of the world, but perfecting human morality and character. For Muslims, fasting is one of the divinely prescribed means to that end.

Fasting elevates the human spirit and increases awareness of God. Fasting strengthens will power and teaches how to rise above lower desires. The institution of fasting is a unique and a shared experience in human history. From the very beginning of time, humans have struggled to master their physical and psychological selves: their bodies and their emotions. Hunger is one of the most powerful urges that humans experience. Many, by over or under-eating, or by consuming unhealthy foods, abuse this urge. Anyone who has ever tried to come closer to his or her spiritual self has had to overcome the desire to over-indulge in self-gratification. When a person denies him or herself of something he or she craves, he or she elevates the mind above the body, and reason

رمضان

above carnal passions. "A fasting person empties his stomach of all the material things: to fill his soul with peace and blessings, to fill his heart with love and sympathy, to fill his spirit with piety and faith, to fill his mind with wisdom and resolution," says H. Abdalati in *Islam in Focus*. The person who can rule and direct his or her desires has attained true moral excellence.

With the clarity of mind and absence of distractions comes greater focus. As

of distractions comes greater focus. As students, the period of fasting - especially early in the day - serves as a tool to focus the mind on academics. In the month of Ramadan, Muslims try to avoid watching TV, listening to music, and other leisure activities to allow them more time for more productive activities, such as academics, Islamic studies, voluntary prayers, social and humanitarian causes, and quality time with family. The month of Ramadan is a reminder of duty to God, Muslim purpose, and higher values in life. The Quran - the holy book of Islam - describes the purpose of fasting: "O you who Believe! Fasting has been prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may develop

Continued on page 8

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Islamic men at prayer in Dushanbe, Tajikistan in West Asia.

Why Islam?

BY FOZIA CHAUDARY

What causes a person to disregard his or her former values and venture on a new path? What reasons drive such a profound change?

In the following article, Abdullah Archibald Hamilton, a convert to Islam, explains why he accepted Islam, and the challenges he faced as a result:

"Since reaching the age of puberty, I had been allured by Islam's simplicity. Raised by a well known Christian family, I accepted Islam many years ago.

Sad to say, various people have misrepresented Islam as a religion of falsities and concoctions. Islam is a religion which brings about unity between the powerful and the weak, the rich and the poor. Economically, there are two main classes of people. The first class contains people whom Allah has blessed with worldly riches. The second class is made up of those who have to work for a living. There is yet another class. People in this class live in utter destitution because they cannot earn enough, because they have lost their jobs, or because they can no longer work, none of which cases is their fault. Islam enables all these three classes to come

together in a harmonized society. It commands the rich to help the poor. It provides a social setting where humiliations and afflictions are extirpated.

The Islamic religion also lays emphasis on personal abilities, efforts and skills. For instance, according to the Islamic jurisprudence, if a poor peasant cultivates an ownerless piece of land on his own for a certain length of time, the land becomes his personal property. The Islamic religion is restorative.

I do not want to say much on how Islam establishes brotherhood among all Muslims. In Islam, all people - the rich, the poor, the nobles, villagers, civil servants, workers, merchants, are equal in the presence of Allah. They are brothers. Throughout my travels in the Muslim countries, I felt as if I had been in my own home and among my brothers.

A final remark I would like to add is this: Islam invites people both to work honestly all day long and to carry on his acts of worship. Islam is a complete way of life.

It was for these reasons that I became a Muslim."

For more information, visit:
<http://www.hizmetbooks.org/>

Virtue in Ramadan

Continued from page 7

consciousness of God" (Quran 2.183)

Fasting has numerous, scientifically proven benefits for physical health and mental well-being. The time, length, and nature of the Islamic Fast all contribute to its overall positive effect. As a medical benefit, fasting provides rest to the digestive system. The reduced food intake during the day allows the body to rid itself of harmful dietary toxins accumulated as natural by-products of food digestion throughout the year. The length of the Islamic fast itself - approximately twelve to fourteen hours per day - follows the 'transit time' of food from the mouth to the colon of the large intestine. This ensures that no stimulus reaches the stomach or digestive system. For the vast majority of healthy individuals, fasting poses no medical risks. In fact, fasting provides health benefits: an increase in serum Magnesium - essential for cardiovascular health and prevention of heart complications - improvement in the quality and depth of sleep, improvement in memory, skin ages slower over time, and increased production of growth hormones. It has been observed that underfed animals live longer than their heavily fed counterparts, and suffer fewer illnesses during their life span.

The month of Ramadan provides a type of "Boot camp." It is a month of intense moral training. Muslims believe that fasting is a special duty prescribed by God, any sin may spoil the record of fasting with God. Many people who fast during Ramadan experience the impact of the fast on their habits. Fasting is a transformative tool designed to shape people into better human beings - the ultimate goal of any spiritual exercise. The atmosphere created by Ramadan provides a driving force for positive change.

Fasting fosters patience, unselfishness, and gratitude. When Muslims fast they feel the pains of deprivation and hunger, and learn how to

endure it patiently. Even though this deprivation is temporary, it is a powerful experience that inspires a realization of the severe effects of deprivation and hunger on others who lack essential commodities. Ramadan creates a social and humanitarian context that encourages compassion for and a response to help the oppressed and needy around the world. "It is the month to visit the poor, the sick, and the needy to share their sorrows. It is the month where the food, sustenance and the earnings of a believing Muslim increases and they are blessed," says the Prophet Muhammad - a man known for



"Fasting is a unique and shared experience in human history.

From the beginning of time, humans have struggled to master their physical and psychological selves: their bodies and their emotions."

unpredictable hardships. A person who values adaptability, time-management, and courage can appreciate the effects of fasting.

Fasting impacts morality and behaviour. Ramadan has been described as the "Month of Forgiveness." "During the month of Ramadan the gates of Paradise are opened, the gates of Hell-fire are closed and the satans are chained," said the Prophet Muhammad. Muhammad explained, "all the previous sins of a person are forgiven if he or she fasts in the month of Ramadan with full faith and with the desire to fulfill a duty to God and earn God's rewards.

Ramadan is a blessed month for Muslims for another reason.

Muslims believe that Ramadan

is the month that God first revealed a final message of guidance for mankind to the Prophet Muhammad. This message has been preserved both orally and textually in the Quran. Muslims try to do an intense study of the Quran, particularly during this month, and evaluate their lives according to the standards and guidance contained in it.

After the month of Ramadan is over, Muslims celebrate one of the two most important holidays in the Islamic year: EID-UL-FITR - the Festival of the Fast Breaking. EID-UL-FITR is a day to thank God for the blessing and training provided during Ramadan. EID-UL-FITR is marked by group prayer at an Islamic Centre or mosque, and also by donating to the poor in the community. Dinner parties, family outings, fairs, and carnivals follow the prayer.

The primary purpose of fasting is to discipline the soul, to encourage moral behavior, and to provoke compassion for the less fortunate. Fasting is a multi-functional, comprehensive tool for change in various spheres of life - social and economic, intellectual and humanitarian, spiritual and physical, private and public, personal and common, inner and outer.



The famous Dome of the Rock mosque in Jerusalem, Israel. Built in 387 AD, the Muslim mosque represents the place where the Prophet Muhammad made his journey into the heavens.

photo/Tracy Moniz

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Website of the Week

BY JUDE LEE

"Who can come up with a better device than my Immortality Device?" asks Alex Chiu. "Eternal Life Rings" ... "Eternal Foot Braces" ... Chiu's claims his "new invention allows humans to live forever."

Check out this week's website pick:

<http://www.alexchiu.com>

The Medium is available all around the world. If you're in Milan, read The Medium. If you're in Paris, read The Medium. If you're in Moosejaw, read The Medium.

<http://medium.sa.utoronto.ca>

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

UTM recognizes artists and actors

The Award Winners:

The Sylvia C. Morton Prize for highest cumulative average in studio courses: Caroline Marshall

The Margaret Laidlaw Memorial Scholarship for highest cumulative overall GPA for a student entering fourth year of A&AH: Jessie Cary

The Catherine Quesnel Prize for highest overall GPA for a student entering third year of the A&AH: Lillian McKinnon

Art History has it's eyes on you (Art History): Brian Leichnitz

Dr. Annie Smith Award: Jonathan Eger Jaclyn Shimot

Art Gallery of Peel Award (Drawing): Rogelio Briseno Caroline Marshall

Woolfitt's Award - Drawing 1: Ji Yean Choi Leif Raitha

Faculty Drawing Award - Drawing 2: Maia Pushchin Kara Schuster

Faculty Drawing Award - Drawing 3: Rogelio Briseno Caroline Marshall

C International Contemporary Art Award - Design 1: Dale Lang

Power Plant Award - Design 3: Christopher Barnes

Power Plant Award (Digital Imaging): Andrew Kim

Above Ground Art Supplies Award (Painting): Robert Lee

Art Gallery of Peel Award - Painting 4: Jennifer Ford Barbara Rowlandson Rebecca See Andre Serin

D.L. Stevenson & Son Award - Painting 1: Sylvia Bartosik Ji Yean Choi Tasha Ethelston Rochelle Lockey

Faculty Painting Award - Painting 2: Jill Kitchener Michael Trapani Melissa Verge

Art Gallery of Ontario Award - Photo 1: Brian Leichnitz

Ilford Award - Photo 2: Andrea Fabricius Leah Weinger

Photographic Solutions Award (Photo): Dale Lang Su-Ying Lee

Toronto Image Works Award (Advanced Photo): Nicola Betts

Vistek Award (Photo): Amie Tolton

InterAccess Award (digital/video): Erica Brown

Japanese Paper Place Award - Print 1 Anjali Rathore

Open Studio Award (Printmaking): Nicola Betts

Associate Dean's Award - Print 2: Lillian McKinnon

Faculty Sculpture Award - Sculpture 3: Michael Trapani

Attendance was high at last week's Art and Art History awards ceremony at Sheridan College's Annie Smith Centre - even though many of the award winners failed to attend. UTM principal Robert McNutt and UTM dean of humanities Michael Lettieri also missed the ceremony.

Sheridan College president Sheldon Levy (who arrived late, and left early,) SOCAD Dean Michael Collins, the indomitable Dr. Annie Smith, and keynote speaker, Francine Perinet, director of the Oakville galleries, also attended. Perinet educated the audi-

ence with an improvised speech about the importance of identity and community in relationship to the art world and to society.

The evening opened with Jennifer Matotek's delightful performance piece, *Ode to Madge*. Art and Art History co-ordinator Carmelo Arnaldin presided over the event as master of ceremonies, with his characteristic charm and class. Associate Dean Richard Sewell, Blackwood Gallery curator Barbara Fischer, members of the Art and Art History Faculty, and Bill Huffman's clone made guest appearances.

Dancemakers interpret the life of Joseph Finch

DANCE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Visual Biographies about the Holocaust, and Holocaust survivors are always difficult to watch. Sometimes, the survivor's stories are told in stirring, emotional, and unforgettable ways. Other biographical treatments border on empty, disrespectful, sacrilegious. Luckily, Serge Bennathan's Dancemakers create a visually breathtaking, and emotionally charged, dance portrait of *The Invisible Life of Joseph Finch*. Bennathan and his company successfully reconcile a truthful, representational narrative using the abstract, conceptual approaches of modern dance.

The story is framed in a traditional manner, as a loud male voice booms over the sound system, reading an excerpt from Finch's diary. Memories from Finch's childhood in Germany fade from direct explanation into abstracted movements, as the dancers slip into the personas inside Finch's own head, and play the more representational roles of Finches' parents, lover, daughter, and friends.

The production glimpses into Finch's own psyche, as the dancers glide back and forth through the spectrum of abstraction and representation.

The high quality of the dance, choreography, and visual design in Joseph Finch occasionally overpowered the conceptual treatment of Finch's story, as the weakest moments in the production were the ones which were overly representational without purpose. In one scene, the dancer's interpret Finch's explanation of his dark violin-making shop by groping blindly across the stage. By representing elements of the narrative without interpreting or abstracting them, Dancemakers runs the risk of undermining the strong choices they make in the more abstract scenes of the production: the subtle, cryptic movements used in scene depicting the Holocaust's death camps surely brought some audience members to tears.

I'd love to see this production again, and I certainly hope that Dancemakers consider reworking and editing this performance for an even larger venue, with a longer run.

Dancemakers' Invisible Life of Joseph Finch ran at the Harbourfront Centre's Premiere Dance Theatre November 21st to 25th.

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Unbreakable reunites Willis with Sixth Sense director

MOVIE REVIEW

BY RICHIE MEHTA

The *Sixth Sense* impressed me. The trailers looked uninspired, but the film was great. Creator M. Night Shyamalan did an incredible job writing, shooting, and editing the film, and his team — including composer James Newton Howard, Bruce Willis, and Disney — all came through to make a thoughtful, sensitive ghost story with a twist.

His second major feature, *Unbreakable*, reunites the same team, and creates an equally original, but inferior, film.

The tale begins with the proclamation that comic books are incredibly popular, and important. Huh?

Samuel L. Jackson plays a man with a genetic disorder that makes his bones weak. If he falls, he breaks.

Bruce Willis plays a man who doesn't break. If he gets into train wrecks, he's

unharmed.

What's their relationship? What's the train wreck explanation? The answer lies in those popular comic books.

Sounds bizarre. But Night's careful attention to detail and patient technique make this film plausible, and often, exceptional. Night has single-handedly saved Willis' career from Planet Hollywood disaster.

Critical comparisons made between Night and Hitchcock are accurate. But stylistically, Night makes the film his own with long takes, well-developed domestic situations, and supernatural elements. Night even plays a small part in *Unbreakable*, like Hitchcock did in his films.

Unbreakable is inferior to *The Sixth Sense*, partly because of expectations, and partly because the premise is slightly hokey.

But the story is original, the actors act, the director directs, and the camera works harder than the editing room. I can't wait for Night's next film.



Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson star in M. Night Shyamalan's *Unbreakable*.

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CanStage's *Weir* succeeds through simplicity

THEATRE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Everyone loves a good ghost story. Especially drunk people. Especially drunk Irish people.

Conor McPherson's *The Weir*, set in a rural Irish pub, tells the story of four locals who swap ghost stories to compete for the attention of a young woman from Dublin. *The Weir*'s run at the Bluma Appel Theatre marks the third North American production of this 1999 Olivier Award winner for Best New Play.

The story centres around the lives of four Irishmen: Brendan (Oliver Becker), Finbar (John Jarvis), Jack (Barry MacGregor,) and Jim (Robert Persichini.) Each of them has a haunting story to tell. Themes of love, loss, and longing unite the ghost stories, but the surprising tale spun by the Dublin outsider, Valerie (Ann Bagley), is the most haunting.

The premise of the production is simple, the dialogue is truthful and direct, and the play's narrative is elegantly carried out. But what stood out most in this simple production, beyond *The Weir*'s great stories, were the incredible performances. Barry MacGregor perfectly captures the stodgy, bitterly fierce brogue of



John Jarvis plays Finbar in CanStage's production of Conor McPherson's *The Weir*.

the single, middle-aged mechanic, Jack. Robert Persichini's sensitive portrayal of His creative energy, grounded in the reality of what he was doing, bounced off John Jarvis' well-to-do city lover, Finbar, with near-perfect chemistry.

Robert Persichini's sensitive portrayal of Jim, a middle-aged man still living at home with his mother, provides the most solid, giving performance in the production. Persichini plays Jim with touching,

genuine intellect - when Jim laughed at his bar mate's jokes, his face actually filled with blood to form an unearthly, bawdy blush.

Veteran director Jackie Maxwell has worked hard with set and lighting designers Francis O'Connor and Kevin Fraser, to perfectly recreate the mood and nuances of an old, rural Irish pub. The set is so carefully constructed and utilized in the staging of this production that it becomes a character of its own, although I was initially confused why the set designer chose to leave the wooden rafters of the ceiling open and exposed. When I saw the delicate wisps of smoke curl up towards the stage lights, I understood the creative choice.

Subtle spotlights focus on the character's story-telling monologues, unobtrusively drawing the audience's focus towards the story-teller. Unfortunately, overly obtrusive sounds represent important elements from the story-teller's yarns. Such obviousness undermines the sensitive, subtle treatment of the production's lighting and staging.

If you like good, simple theatre, that tells good, solid stories, be sure to attend Canadian Stage's production of *The Weir*. It will rivet your attention, appeal to your imagination, and stir your emotions. And the startling performances will never be forgotten.

The Weir continues until Dec. 9th at the Bluma Appel Theatre.

UTM recognition continued

continued from page 9

David Mirvish Books on Art Award - Sculpture 2
Kara Schuster

Faculty Sculpture Award (Sculpture):
Brian Leichtz
Lindsay Parrish

Art Gallery of Mississauga Award (Volunteer):
Richie Mehta
Barbara Rowlandson

Canadian Art Foundation Award (Volunteer):
Jonathan Eger
Su-Ying Lee
Jaclyn Shimoni

FASA Award (Volunteer):
Leah Weinger

Blackwood Gallery Award (volunteer):
Laurie Kallis

Blackwood Gallery Award (Critical Writing):
Jennifer Matotek

Bill Hoffman Award:
Amie Tolton
(Amie was awarded her own show at 401 Richmond Street this January)

Mercer Union Award (Graduating Year):
Christine Day
Linda Mackay
Rebecca See
Andre Serin
Barbara Rowlandson

Oakville Galleries Award (Visual Discourse):
Jessie Caryl
Jennifer Matotek
Maia Pushchin

Last month, students in UTM's Theatre and Drama Studies Programme were also given awards of excellence.

A.L. Fernie Awards for sessional GPA following 5 courses:
Gotz Dapp
Kyle Macdonald

for sessional GPA following 6-10 courses:
Bonnie Smith
Eliza Hicks

for achievement in Academic courses following 15 credits:
Dorianne Emmerton

for achievement in Acting courses following 15 credits:
Alison Jutzi

First year crew member of the year:
Mark Sykes

Crew chief of the year:
Valerie Golden

Stage management prize:
Paul Pemberton

Theatre History Award:
Bonnie Smith

Junior Project Prize:
Eric Rose

Graduate Prize:
Melissa Boehner

Life of the program:
Jay Chellew

Fallen Angels award:
Bobby Del Rio

A.L. Fernie Bursaries:
Paul Pemberton
Joanne Newell

The Janet Beck Award:
Matt White

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SPORTS

Controversy surrounds soccer finals

BY KORY JAZBEC

The biggest news of the week might have occurred off the playing court instead of on it. Captain K of TYRC, whose team lost both games in the semi-finals of the Championship play-offs against Man Utd. last week, filed an official protest against the team. TYRC stated that Man Utd. had too many interfaculty players according to the rules. The rules state only five interfaculty players are allowed, but Man Utd. had six. After hearing news of the protest, Man Utd.'s captains desperately searched through the UTM Rule's and regulations for a clause out but couldn't find one. The athletics department deemed Man UTD ineligible and therefore defaulted from the semi-finals. With the

default, TYRC gained entry into the finals.

Championship Finals - Game 1

Deportees 6 TYRC 4

Fresh off their upset win against TYC, Deportees were anxiously awaiting their opponent — TRYC. Deportees were off to a flying start and led 3-0. However, down TYRC mounted a comeback led by 7th year veteran Norbert's two goals. They cut the deficit to 4-3. However, two late goals in the final minute of play by Deportees was enough to secure the win in the first game of a best-of-three series. Shaminder Kahlon and Ravi Virdi led the way for Deportees with two goals apiece.

ASIAN UTD WIN CONSOLATION FINALS

The Asians Utd. are the men's 2000 intramural consolation champions. They defeated FC Wunderboyz in the first game by a score of 9-3, led by Hon Choi's four goals and Trung Do's three goals. In the second game, FC Wunderboyz led 3-2 with about seven minutes remaining when a scuffle resulted, an FC Wunderboyz player pushed an Asian Utd. player in to the wall. A heated argument and a punch thrown by one of the FC Wunderboyz players followed. The referees issued two red cards to the FC Wunderboyz, which resulted in an automatic default of the game. The Asians Utd. won the second game and the consolation championships with a 2-0 series win.

Fitstop wins softball championship

BY SACHIN BHANDARI

Fitstop continued their hot play in November as they won the coed intramural softball championship game against the Tigers. The seven-inning game saw an amazing 20 homeruns hit, ten by each team. The final score was 27-20.

Ironically, the high scoring game began with Fitstop not scoring at all in the top of the first inning as they went three up and three down. The pace quickly picked up as the Tigers scored five runs in the bottom of the inning. The inning was capped by Brian Yaschyshyn hitting a three-run shot and Dave Jutzi adding a two-run homerun.

In the second inning, the Fitstop bats came alive as Neal Carley and Massimo Giannobile hit back-to-back homeruns. Joel Huws-Oussoren also hit a homerun in the inning. Despite the three homeruns, Fitstop still trailed 5-4. Mark

Muzhar hit a homerun for the Tigers in the bottom of the inning to make it a 6-4 game after two innings.

Fitstop took the lead in the third inning as the top six batters in the lineup all scored. Carley hit another homerun to give him a total of four for the playoffs. The Tigers had their only scoreless inning in the bottom of the third as no Tiger base-runners advanced beyond first base.

The fourth inning saw Fitstop take a commanding lead as they ended the inning by scoring the maximum seven runs. Chris Carrabs homered and Carley drove in three more runs with a triple. Vincent Cheng homered in the bottom of the inning, but the Tigers only scored two runs that inning. The score after four innings was 17-8.

The fifth inning saw two more homeruns as both teams scored three more runs. Sean Lennie and

Jean Palluzzi cleared the outfield fences for Fitstop.

With the homeruns getting out of hand, players on the Tigers started to give style points for homeruns. To get the maximum number of points a player had to hit a car on a homerun.

Darryl Sequeira hit his first of two homeruns in the top of the sixth inning. The homerun ended up being the game winner as his two-run shot gave Fitstop 22 runs on the day. In the bottom of the inning, Yaschyshyn and Jutzi both hit their second homeruns of the game.

In the final inning, Sequeira — who went 5-5 — and Palluzzi, both hit their second homeruns of the game to give Fitstop a 27-14 lead. The Tigers responded with homeruns by Adam Long, Cheng, and Yaschyshyn, but the game ended as Fitstop forced an out at first base.

Congratulations to the Fitstop team.

Professionals win consolation game

BY SACHIN BHANDARI

The Professionals beat Brown Sugar to win the consolation intramural softball championship on Wednesday.



We're number one: Scott Paterson gives a "very professional" finger to the camera.

In the top of the first inning, the Professionals found it tough to hit in the windy conditions as they went three up and three down. Brown Sugar also found the weather tough to cope with in their half of the inning. With Abraham Iqbal on third base, Kevin Ali hit a towering shot to left-field. The hit looked like it could have cleared the fences, but the gusty wind kept it in play and the ball was caught in the outfield. Iqbal did tag up to score and give Brown

Sugar a 1-0 lead after one inning.

In the second inning, the Professionals managed to get runners on base, but still scored no runs. Brown Sugar also failed to add to their lead as they went hitless.

The third inning was the breakthrough inning for the Professionals. The inning saw only one Professional batter retire as they batted around the order to get the seven-run mercy. The inning ended on a Craig Allen homerun, who went 2-2 on the day. Brown Sugar also got a homerun in the bottom of the inning from Roj Kop, but they trailed 7-2 after three innings.

With the score 9-2 in the bottom of the fourth inning, the game was called due to bad conditions as the blowing snow made it hard to spot the ball.



Brown sugar tries to rally against the Professionals.

Scott Paterson led the Professionals as he went 2-2 with two runs scored. Seema Chawla and Rishi Bajaj went 2-2 for Brown Sugar.

Student charged with assault

BY ADAM GILES

team right between the eyes," said Paris.

The victim was taken to the UTM Health Centre and was seen by a doctor. He was then transported to the hospital to have his head X-rayed.

Paris said that Campus Police interviewed Vasti and witnesses, and based on those interviews, charged him with assault.

"Campus Police issued him an appearance notice to appear in court on December 27th to answer to the charge. We are going to continue to investigate because we haven't interviewed everyone yet," said Paris.

Paris said, "Physical assault has no place on this campus. This is unacceptable behaviour to have at a university. In sports, a certain amount of pushing and shoving may be expected, but to come off the bench and punch someone in the face goes way beyond sportsmanship."

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Basketball finals go to deciding game

BY SACHIN BHANDARI

Game 1

Revolution came into this game with great confidence as they had just knocked off the Shooters in the semi-finals. They should have had an easy time defeating the Lobsters to win the championship, especially since they had beaten them by a huge margin in the regular season. On paper it looked like a potential two-game sweep for Revolution, but as they say "that's why they play the game." The Lobsters easily won the game 51-39, putting them in a good position to win the championship.

The Lobsters put this game away early. They jumped out to an early 10-2 lead, and by halftime increased their lead to 12 points with a 26-14 lead. Their shooters were on fire in the first half, especially Andy Chen who hit 3 three-pointers and Jack Tseng who scored nine points in the half. Revolution could not make any of their shots and had trouble getting the ball to their inside players as they limited the duo of Jeetinder Singh and Ray Ferguson to only six combined points in the half. The Lobsters took advantage of the absence of Revolution's guards to swarm Michael Han and cause many turnovers. These turnovers led to many fast-break lay-ups for Tseng.

In the second half, the two teams swapped baskets as Revolution had trouble decreasing the Lobsters

lead to single digits. Tseng continued his hot play and ended up with a game-high 24 points. He went a solid 7-8 from the free-throw line and continued to hit shots, even when he had a hand in his face. Singh tried to get his team back into the game by scoring 12 second-half points, but Alan Tang played great defense and grabbed many rebounds to limit the second chance points for Revolution.

After the game, Revolution players seemed shocked. They overlooked a solid team, but remained confident that they could come back to win the next game.



photo: Emilie Leung
Revolution and Lobsters players crash the boards during basketball action.

Game 2

With the loss on Tuesday, Revolution had to change its game plan to have any chance of winning the series. Revolution changed its starting line-up and shortened its

bench. They also played man-to-man defense to limit the three-point attempts by the Lobsters' sharpshooters. The strategy worked as Revolution beat the Lobsters 51-41 to force a third and deciding game.

The game started slowly as the score was 2-0 for the Lobsters after five minutes of play. But the pace quickly picked up as Revolution started to get the ball down low to their big men. Ray Ferguson got Revolution into the game by scoring seven points in a 17-10 stretch to give them the lead. However, the lead decreased to two points as the Lobsters used some strong three-point shooting to get back into the game. The score was 20-18 at halftime.

In the second half, the Revolution starters played virtually the whole half. Ferguson continued his hot play by scoring 12 points in the half, and along with Jeetinder Singh, combined for 27 of the team's 31 second-half points. Ferguson and Singh had their way around the basket, especially with the Lobsters Alan Tang in foul trouble. Jack Tseng tried to keep the Lobsters in the game by scoring nine second half points, but in the end, the Lobsters couldn't knock down the shots they were hitting in the first game.

High scorers for Revolution were Singh with 20 points and Ferguson with 19. Jack Tseng led the Lobsters with 12 points, while Alan Tang added 11.

Women's basketball team advances to final

BY STEVE MANCHUR

UTM's division one women's basketball team advanced to the finals with a hard-fought 48-38 semi-final victory over Scarborough College. After defeating Scarborough fairly easily in two previous league play games, UTM walked into the game a little over-confident, and that almost came back to bite them.

UTM jumped out to an early 15-4

lead with an aggressive full-court pressure defense. Scarborough's guards couldn't respond to the pressure, which led to turnovers and easy baskets for UTM. The momentum of the game changed when UTM benched guard Stephanie Kishimoto, who got into early foul trouble. Scarborough beat the pressure and scored easy baskets in transition. UTM's once big lead was cut to six at halftime.

The second half was an exciting

battle to the end. UTM led for most of the half, but Scarborough kept hanging around. With the score tied at 37, UTM went on an 11-1 run to end the game, led by huge baskets by Ashley Cross and Maria Kosovski, and clutch foul shooting by Kishimoto. Rita Lenhardt came up big down the stretch with her tremendous defensive effort.

The team starts the best-of-three finals on Monday night at UTM against Law.

Ice hockey: The Skule of hard knocks

BY ASTRID POEI

Last Monday night, the UTM women's ice hockey team faced off against the Engineers at Varsity Arena. The first period remained scoreless, but there was no lack of action as UTM pressed the Skule defence. The Skule goalie faced many shots, including a breakaway shot by center Erin Laporte, but she blocked them all. Netminder Debbie Medeiros kept UTM in it, stopping several difficult screen shots. A critical moment came when, during a bad point pass on UTM's part, a Skule player went into UTM's zone alone. Fortunately, defenceman

Elizabeth Wong quickly broke up the play.

It seemed the game would go scoreless, but with a minute left, Skule earned a goal when UTM defenceman Holly Grant accidentally put it in her own net while trying to clear the puck. Coach Chris Carrabs called a time-out which the referee could not hear, so when time expired, the Skule bench burst into cheers. Their celebration was short-lived though, as the referee set the time back to 18 seconds. UTM pulled their goalie and desperately tried to score but unfortunately they came up short. UTM lost 1-0. This loss marks UTM's second of the season.



photo: Emilie Leung
Debbie Medeiros follows the play as their opponents swarm the net.

Ice hockey top goal-scorers

(thru November 20th)

Cheryl Penfold - 6 goals
Kim Shapcott - 5
Erin Laporte - 3
Chandra Gilbert - 2
Sue Pfeiffer - 2
Astrid Poi - 1
Christina Hosein - 1
Chris Wade - 1
Gina Rajack - 1
Elizabeth Wong - 1

Ice hockey game history

Oct 15-UTM 6, PT/OT 1
Oct 23-UTM 0, PEH/Pharmacy 8
Nov 4-UTM 8, Scarborough 1
Nov 13-UTM 9, Meds/Law 2
Nov 20-UTM 0, Skule 1
Nov 24-Sheridan Tournament Game 1-UTM 7, Seneca 1
Game 2-UTM 7, Centennial 4
Finals-UTM 4, Mohawk 0

Interfaculty results

Nov 19-Women's touch football final
UTM 14, Law B 7
Nov 20-Women's ice hockey
UTM 0, Engineering 1
Nov 21-Men's Div. 2 v-ball
UTM 0, Dentistry 2
Nov 21-Women's Div. 1 v-ball
UTM 2, Pharmacy 0
Nov 22-Women's Div. 1 basketball
UTM 48, Scarborough 38
Nov 22-Men's Div. 1 basketball
UTM 75, Victoria 54



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